

**In the claims:**

**Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:**

3. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a wire bonding capillary comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a wire bonding capillary for pressing a metal wire against an electrode pad comprising a capillary tip having a pressing face; and
- (b) coating all of said pressing face of said capillary tip with a layer of polymeric material, said polymeric material including at least one thermoplastic polymer.

4. (Previously amended) The method as in claim 3 wherein said thermoplastic polymer is poly-p-xylylene.